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REPORT OF THE
SOUTH-WIDE CONFERENCE OF STATE AND DISTRICT SUPERVISORS
OF EXTENSION WORK WITH NEGROES

Washington, D. C.
June 23-28, 1945

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FOREWORD

The work of the conference centered on some major problems with which Extension Service is concerned. Among the problems discussed were: the role of Extension Service in the post-war cotton program, wartime food production and conservation for home use, a program for our farm youth, assistance for veterans and displaced war workers, a conversion program for the cotton South, rural health, and improvement of extension methods.

A committee was appointed for each of the problems discussed. Each committee met and fully considered the aspects of the problems as presented by the speakers who covered the subject. After full discussion the committees prepared a brief set of recommendations. This report consists largely of the recommendations made by the committees and accepted by the conference as a whole. It is hoped that these recommendations will be used in the States by the supervisors in helping individual agents plan and carry on extension work to help rural people meet these specific problems.

Important sidelights of the conference: a presentation to Miss Lizzie A. Jenkins, district home demonstration agent of Virginia, upon her retirement on June 30, after 32 years in the service; a sightseeing tour of the capital, and a dinner at Slowe Hall. Dr. Jackson Davis of the General Education Board, Claude A. Barnett of the Associated Negro Press, and Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune were the principal speakers.

One of the unexpected pleasures of the conference was the attendance of J. C. Hotchkiss, formerly chief organizer, National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs in England and Wales. Mr. Hotchkiss has been recently appointed director of 4-H Clubs for the British West Indies.

Also in attendance at the conference was Director I. P. Trotter of the Texas State Extension Service.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
EXTENSION SERVICE

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PROGRAM
of
SOUTH-WIDE CONFERENCE
of
STATE AND DISTRICT SUPERVISORS
OF EXTENSION WORK WITH NEGROES
Washington, D. C.
June 23 - 28, 1945

Saturday morning, June 23

Room 1409, South Building

Chairman - H. W. Hochbaum, Chief, Division of Field Coordination

- 10:00 a.m. New Opportunities and Responsibilities in Extension Work with Negroes
M. L. Wilson, Director of Extension Work
- 10:30 a.m. Plans for the Conference
J. W. Mitchell, Field Agent
Chairman, Program Planning
Sherman Briscoe, Information Specialist
Secretary of Committee
- 10:45 a.m. Introduction of State Agents
T. M. Campbell, Field Agent
- 11:00 a.m. Problems of the Home Food Supply
Paul C. Stark, Director of Home Food Supply
- 12:00 Luncheon

Saturday afternoon, June 23

Room 1409, South Building

Chairman - H. W. Hochbaum, Chief, Division of Field Coordination

- 1:30 p.m. Coordinating the Extension Program
C. A. Sheffield, Field Agent
- 2:00 p.m. Agricultural Opportunities in the South
C. C. Spaulding, President, North Carolina
Mutual Life Insurance Company
- 2:45 p.m. Opportunities and Challenge Facing Negro Extension Workers in the Post-War Period
T. M. Campbell, Field Agent
J. W. Mitchell, Field Agent
- 3:15 p.m. Recess
- 3:30 p.m. Appointment and Introduction of Conference Committees
H. W. Hochbaum, Chief, Division of
Field Coordination
- Committee #1
Chairman - M. M. Hubert, District Agent, Mississippi
Secretary - Fannie M. Boone, District Agent, Arkansas
Subject: The Role of the Extension Service in the
Post-War Cotton Program
H. H. Williamson, Assistant Director of
Extension Work
- Discussion
- 5:30 p.m. Adjournment

Sunday, June 24

Morning - attend church. Afternoon - tour.

Chairman - Sherman Briscoe

The group will visit: Pentagon Building, Lincoln Memorial, White House, Washington Monument, Capitol, Frederick Douglass Memorial Home.

Monday morning, June 25

Room 1409, South Building

9:00 a.m.

Committee #2

Chairman - J. R. Otis, State Agent, Alabama

Secretary - Miss Bessie Walton, District Agent, Tennessee

Subject: Wartime Food Production and Conservation
for Home Use

Miss Mena Hogan, Field Agent

Mrs. Marian B. Paul, State Agent,
South Carolina

Discussion

10:30 a.m.

Recess

10:45 a.m.

Committee #3

Chairman - W. H. Williamson, Assistant State Agent, Tennessee

Secretary - Mrs. Dazelle F. Lowe, District Agent, North
Carolina

Subject: A Program for our Farm Youth

Reuben Brigham, Assistant Director of
Extension Work

Dr. E. B. Evans, Dean, School of Veterinary
Science, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama

12:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Monday afternoon, June 25

Room 1409, South Building

1:30 p.m.

Committee #4

Chairman - P. H. Stone, State Agent, Georgia

Secretary - Mrs. Iola W. Rowan, District Agent, Texas

Subject: Helping Veterans and Displaced War Workers
Adjust Themselves to the Changing Agricultural
Economy in the South.

Problems of Returning Veterans

D. Z. McCormick, Training Division, Veterans
Administration

2:00 p.m.

Loans for Veterans Who Wish to Farm

Paul Maris, Farm Security Administration

C. W. Warburton, Farm Credit Administration

2:50 p.m.

Recess

3:00 p.m.

Chairman - H. H. Williamson, Assistant Director of
Extension Work

Subject: A Conversion Program for the Cotton South

Dr. F. F. Elliott and representatives B.A.E.

5:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Monday evening, June 25

8:30 p.m. Dinner, Slove Hall, 1919 - 3rd St., N. W.
Speakers: Dr. Jackson Davis, Associate Director,
General Education Board, New York
Mr. Claude Barnett, Director, Associated
Negro Press, Chicago, Illinois

Tuesday morning, June 26

Committee #5
Chairman - R. E. Jones, State Agent, North Carolina
Secretary - Mrs. Helen Hewlett, District Agent, Oklahoma
Subject: Rural Health
10:00 a.m. Visit to Nutrition Laboratory, Public Health Institute,
Bethesda, Md. - Dr. Floyd S. Daft, in charge.
Street car for group will leave 7th and Pennsylvania
Avenue at 8:45 a.m. for Bethesda, Maryland, arriving
at Health Center at 10:00 a.m. The group will leave
Health Center at 12 noon, return to Howard University,
and report to Freedmen's Hospital at 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday afternoon, June 26

2:00 p.m. Visit to Freedmen's Hospital for a nutritional disease
clinic
Dr. Walter Wilkins, U. S. Public Health
Service, in charge.
4:00 p.m. Discussion of Progress in Enriching Cornmeal, Grits, Flour.
Dr. Reginald C. Sherwood, Office of
Marketing Service
5:30 p.m. Adjournment

Wednesday morning, June 27

Room 2862, South Building

9:00 a.m. Committee #6
Chairman - H. C. Ray, District Agent, Arkansas
Secretary - Mrs. Ruby Henton, Louisiana
Subject: How Shall We Help Extension Agents Improve Extension
Methods - A symposium on Extension Research and
Planning.
S. P. Lyle, In Charge Agricultural and Home
Economics Section
Dr. Gladys Gallup, Chief, Division of Field
Studies and Training
Lester Schlup, Chief, Division of Extension
Information
Discussion
5:00 p.m. Adjournment

Thursday morning, June 28

9:00 a.m. Committee conferences

Thursday afternoon, June 28

3:00 p.m. Committee reports, discussion and adoption
5:30 p.m. Adjournment

REPORT OF COMMITTEE NO. 1

ROLE OF EXTENSION SERVICE IN THE POST-WAR COTTON PROGRAM

A discussion of the role of extension in the post-war cotton program by H. H. Williamson, assistant director of the Extension Service, pointed up the fact that cotton production is not only important to the South, but is important to the whole Nation, because about one-fourth of the American farmers depend upon cotton for all or part of their income.

It is evident, however, that some adjustments will have to be made in the cotton production program in order for American cotton to find markets, and in order that some who are now employed in cotton production may be able to shift to other types of farming, or to other occupational endeavors.

Principal adjustments which must be made involve improving the quality of American cotton, and increasing the production efficiency of the American farmers.

It seems to us that Extension Service is well equipped to assist farmers in making these adjustments. Its neighborhood leadership program, and its 4-H activities provide ready channels through which an intensive educational program may be carried.

A seven-point post-war cotton program designed to achieve higher quality and efficiency in production has already been developed. The chief remaining task is the adaptation of this program to varying conditions in the Southern States, and in securing full participation in the program.

As outlined by Mr. Williamson, the seven-point program is as follows:

(1) Get together on the best varieties

By getting together on one variety, the best variety for local conditions, the farmers in a community can attract buyers who will pay a higher price for larger amounts of high quality, uniform cotton.

(2) Fit cotton into balanced farming

Plan a combination of cash crops, pasture, feed crops, and livestock that will make the fullest use all-year-round of soil, labor, stock, and equipment.

(3) Take care of soil

Stop erosion from stealing away the best top soil by putting every acre to its best use, and by terracing and other sound soil conservation practices.

(4) Make labor count

Lower costs by studying every job in terms of using methods and machinery that will save labor.

(5) Control insects and diseases

Reduce cotton losses due to insects and diseases by using the right insecticides when needed, treating seed, using wilt resistant varieties, and good cultural practices.

(6) Pick and gin high grades

To have high grade cotton, pick it as dry as possible, keep trash out, pick before weather damage, keep the good cotton separate, and see that the ginner uses the latest ginning methods to protect the grade.

(7) Sell for grade and staple value

Clean white bales of longer staple, stronger fiber varieties are worth more. Produce good cotton and get more for it. Don't overlook cotton seed. Handle it so that high grade oil, feed, and linters may be produced.

This program requires the most intensive emphasis on the establishment of a balanced agriculture on adequate family-sized units. Previously, Extension has encouraged diversification and balanced type farming on a voluntary basis, but if the future of cotton is to be assured, diversification and balanced farming must become an indispensable part of the program.

It is the opinion of this committee that Negro Extension workers and their farm leaders should participate more fully in the planning of the continuous adjustments which must be made in cotton production. The integration of the thinking of these leaders with the thinking of leaders of other groups should help to assure more effective operation of the program.

We pledge the unstinted support of the program. However, we feel that more in-service training for Negro personnel would help the workers render colored farm families more effective service.

Respectfully submitted,

M. M. Hubert,	Miss., Chairman
N. Kollock,	Ala.
E. N. Williams,	S. C.
Paul O. Brooks,	Okl.
Fannie Mae Boone,	Ark., Secretary

REPORT OF COMMITTEE NO. 2

WARTIME FOOD PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION FOR HOME USE

I. Review of Discussions

Discussions on the subject reveal the following:

1. That while there has been a surprising increase in the amounts of food and feed produced by farm families in the past three years, the increased demands for food and feed by liberated nations, call for increased efforts on the part of Extension workers to get farmers to produce in quantities to meet this greater demand.
2. Food production and preservation for home use is of importance for two reasons:
 - a. The health of farm people and people of the nation is directly related to an adequate amount of quality food produced and consumed.
 - b. In view of the fact that there has been a shortage in the amount of food and feed produced and consumed by farm families themselves, the greatest contribution that subsistent and part-time farm people can make in winning the war is to produce and preserve the food and feed that is needed for their own consumption, so that other commercial production can go to meet the demands by the Armed Forces and by the liberated countries.
3. The discussion further brought out the fact that the family food supply is preserved by means of both home and community canning equipment and that the major part of food preserved and canned is done by individual families and through club leaders in the regular Extension food preservation program.

The many fine illustrations that were cited during the discussion indicate that there is an opportunity for cooperation on the part of the Extension workers in order that their influence may be widened in counties where these canning centers make it possible to reach a larger number of people and create a desire on the part of farm women to purchase the necessary improved canning equipment -- especially pressure cookers.

Discussions further pointed out the fact that increased production and preservation of the family food supply would increase the income of farm people and help in achieving the larger objective in raising their standard of living. For this reason, this program should be pushed with increased vigor to obtain this objective. Examples were given of extra pantry stores for sale to city consumers by farm homemakers, and while OPA regulations limit expansion in this direction, the practice is one which agents may look forward to as a means of increasing the income of farm families after the war.

In view of the things brought out in the discussion, the committee submits the following program for consideration of the body as means of increasing food production and conservation:

1. Production

- a. That increased efforts be made in getting non-farm families to produce more gardens, chickens and hogs for home consumption.
- b. That farm families be urged to produce more vegetables, small fruits, meats, poultry, and dairy products and to take advantage of the fish culture program.

2. Conservation

- a. That a greater number of people (rural and urban) be urged to preserve more foods for home consumption by the following methods:
 - (1) The wider use of pressure cookers and canning equipment.
 - (2) Drying fruits that require little or no sugar.
 - (3) Brining cabbage to preserve nutritive value.
 - (4) Providing adequate storage facilities for root crops and vegetables for winter.
 - (5) Take advantage of quick-freezing facilities in the county.
 - (6) Place special emphasis on proper methods of preservation to prevent waste from spoilage.
3. That increased efforts be made to get a large club enrollment and a larger number of projects carried by club boys and girls.

II. Suggestive supervisory program for accomplishing increased food production

1. Training programs for new agents, and refresher courses for in-service agents.
 - a. By thoroughly acquainting agents with all agencies in the county and State that may contribute to increased food production and conservation.
 - b. By the use of specialists in training meetings.
 - c. By holding field-training days for agents at Experiment Stations.
 - d. By developing joint programs on the part of farm and home agents to further the Live-at-Home program and promote better family relations.
 - e. By assisting the agents in training neighborhood leaders to help people do a more effective job of canning.

- f. Increasing effort on the part of supervisors to obtain information from other agencies which may promote food production and conservation.

III. Follow Up

1. Supervisors should assist the farm and home agents more in planning for the most effective results.
2. Develop techniques for checking the progress of the work of agents.
3. Increase efforts to obtain the cooperation of State-wide civic and religious organizations in getting the job done.

Respectfully submitted:

J. R. Otis, Alabama, Chairman
Jas. R. Taylor, Maryland
Martin G. Bailey, Maryland
L. C. Hanna, Alabama
L. H. Martin, Maryland
Bessie Walton, Tennessee, Secretary

REPORT OF COMMITTEE NO. 3

PROGRAM FOR RURAL YOUTH

"Invest in the youth for tomorrow and your investment will bring satisfying results."

In view of the fact that we are approaching a changing situation in agriculture which will require the most intelligent citizenry, we believe that we need to start with the rural youth to make this possible.

While much progress has been made in 4-H Club work in recent years, it is quite apparent that a stepped-up and specific program is needed.

FORWARDING YOUTH PROGRAM

1. More people should be brought to understand the potentialities of rural living, so that they can see and create employment opportunities aside from the usual operations of farming and ranching, that will enrich life in the community for all and enable increased numbers of people to make a living in the country.
2. Special attention to the needs of young people needs to be given.
3. Advisory committees of Extension workers to review, plan and implement the services offered youth should be set up in the South.
4. Expanding and revitalizing 4-H work is the first step in enlarging the scope of Extension Service to rural youth in the Southern States.
5. The active participation of the entire Extension staff in meeting the needs of rural youth must be enlisted.
6. Physical, social and recreational programs for adults and junior leaders should be developed.

Juvenile delinquency is a problem of major concern to farm families and agencies working with them. The obvious reason why we have delinquents and criminals is because of bad environmental conditions. Recreation is one means by which youth can be strengthened physically, mentally and morally, which will in turn enrich family life and offset delinquency.

The strength of a nation depends upon the health of its people. The selective draft in the present world crisis has revealed the appalling need for health education and improved medical facilities. There should be closer cooperation between county health units and the Extension Service, by:

- a. Making larger use of available recreation leaders to train agents and farm leaders.
- b. Establishing local, county and State recreational facilities and centers.
- c. Using all available public resources for recreation. Building a program for farm youth in every community, planned and directed by adult advisers and operated by the young people themselves.

FUTURE COURSE OF ACTION

1. Keep all Extension Service employees conscious of the needs for effective service to rural youth.
2. Stimulate individuals in the communities (youth and other adults together) to make a detailed inventory of rural youth in their area --

 who they are
 where they are
 what they are doing
 their particular needs and desires
3. Appraise and improve the Extension program in the light of these community findings and individual needs.
4. Make the program known to the youths through whatever means that will best serve them.
5. Solicit advice from other agencies and individuals outlining specific programs for rural youth.
6. Take advantage of the present general demands for food, clothing, shelter and other supplies produced by the farmer to impress upon non-farmers the importance of the farmers' contribution to the general welfare of the Nation.
7. Help adults to understand and accept leadership from youth -- in order that youth may grow gradually and naturally into adult work, organizations and responsibilities. The community might provide for:

 definite youth representation in county counseling groups,
 and other planned responsibilities for youth to help them
 find their places in adult activities.

GETTING TO THE INDIVIDUAL YOUTH:

 individual work
 group work
 individual part or full-time employment
 topics for discussion

In view of the urgent need of bringing 4-H Club work up to parity, we recommend

I. Increased personnel

- (a) County Farm and Home agents
- (b) State 4-H leaders -- man and woman
- (c) 4-H National leaders -- man and woman

II. Leadership Training

- (a) New agents
- (b) Periodic in-service training for agents
- (c) National annual meeting of State leaders
- (d) Make 4-H material from State and National office more available to Negro State leaders.

III. Information

We recommend that Extension workers be kept conscious of the value and importance of 4-H Club information and that State 4-H Club leaders exchange material produced.

NATIONAL AWARDS:

In order to encourage a higher standard of club work and to stimulate fuller participation, we recommend that a National 4-H Congress and encampment be held annually, and that foundations and organizations which usually contribute to such causes be encouraged to also make provisions for Negro 4-H Club Work.

Respectfully submitted,

W. H. Williamson, Tenn.,	Chairman
Mrs. Dazelle F. Lowe, N. C.,	Secretary
Mrs. Beatrice Childress,	Miss.
G. C. Cypress,	Miss.
V. C. Turner,	Ala.
Miss E. L. Harris,	Ala.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE No. 4

HELPING VETERANS AND DISPLACED WAR WORKERS ADJUST THEMSELVES TO THE
CHANGING AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY IN THE SOUTH

The closing of the European theater of war has made possible the beginning of a movement to release from military service certain personnel, based on age, service record, physical condition and other qualifications. This movement will probably be accelerated as maximum military and defense manpower needs are determined and reached. Likewise, there are already visible signs that industrial reconversion may start a similar movement of war workers toward original homes or new jobs in civilian production.

The impact of these returning servicemen and women and these defense workers on communities throughout the South should be cushioned by a careful but vigorous program of education. Otherwise, we may find the fruits of victory bitter and the anticipated pleasures over our returning veterans and war workers blighted.

It would be well for us as Extension workers to keep our sights trained on the needs of our youth rather than solely on farming as a business. The teaching of farming and homemaking skills, unless this teaching is used as a means of developing all-around men and women able to live happily with people and adapt themselves to changes of environment, may be missing the mark.

Many young men and women have learned skills while engaged in military service and industry, and unless a place is provided where these skills may be used to advantage, those who do return to our communities may develop a feeling of uselessness and futility. Also the plight of the youth who remained in the rural community during the war will need to be considered. They have been denied many of the broadening influences that others have had in military training or in industry and may feel like back numbers when "Joe" and "Jane" come home. Attention to a few things that might be done to attract and hold intelligent young people to farm life will be profitable for Extension and local community leaders just now.

The Congress has made provision under the GI Bill of Rights (Public Law #346) and the Bill for Disabled Veterans (Public Law #16) to assist the men and women during their difficult years of readjustment to civilian life. The Veterans Administration will probably spare no pains in extending to these people every possible aid. But as vast as are the powers of these facilities for extending aid, they cannot provide the most important ingredient -- a public attitude that welcomes without coddling, that extends appreciation without pity, that accepts them with the spirit that will put hope and courage into their hearts and determination and faith as they face the future. This public attitude will be a product of planning and education.

But what has been prepared in the form of home occupational programs, including practical suggestions and ideas for members of the armed forces who upon return home cannot immediately seek outside employment? Some illustrative material showing accomplishments of others might stimulate their imagination and cause many individuals to feel a greater confidence in their ability.

In developing a program for this conference, our leaders wisely provided space for guidance and discussion on what Negro workers might do in their respective spheres of work in preparing and guiding their sector of public opinion and attitude for the return and orientation of these veterans.

At the Monday afternoon session of this conference, Mr. D. Z. McCormick of the Veterans Administration pointed out some of the problems facing returning veterans. He stated that the real adjustment was not to be made by the veteran, but by the public. He cautioned against emphasis on battle scars, war experiences, or other acts and expressions that might embarrass or discourage. Mr. Paul Maris of the Farm Security Administration and Dr. C. W. Warburton of the Farm Credit Administration explained how their respective organizations stood ready to render aid both advisory and financial to GI's who got the approval of the County Certifying Committee.

We recommend:

- I. That Negro extension workers become active immediately. They should:
 - a. Contact county certifying committees and get the county certifying committee to use a small group of capable Negroes as advisers on all matters affecting Negroes.
 - b. Secure a list of selectees from the county selective service board and through the Neighborhood Leadership System
 - (1) Give cooperation to and seek the cooperation of other local agencies in preparation for return of local veterans and workers and in getting information to them.
 - (2) Use extension organizations as a medium through which helpful information is transmitted to the families of veterans and defense workers.
 - (3) Form an advisory committee in each neighborhood and on county level to spearhead educational work and advisory services.
 - (4) County advisory committees should contact county certifying committees in seeking to ease difficulties.
- II. The inclusion of Negroes on the State Certifying Committee
- III. That all available material be obtained for the use of educational and advisory groups for the returning veterans and workers themselves and for the families of veterans and defense workers. Publications from: United States Department of Agriculture, Veterans Administration, Schools and Colleges, and other sources.

- IV. That the local Extension program be developed so as to give maximum assistance to returning veterans and displaced war workers on modern farming, consumer education, housing and home improvement, food production and conservation, nutrition, and family life education.
- V. That county committees on Veterans' Affairs be urged to communicate with the Director of Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C. concerning cases which have not been given due consideration in the State.
- VI. That a veteran who is disabled due to a service connected disability or believes that he or she is in need of vocational rehabilitation to overcome the handicap of his or her disability and who meets the eligibility requirement should be given assistance in making application for a course of education, or training, or a refresher or re-training course and follow-up until satisfactory results have been attained.
- VII. That returning veterans, married or single, who meet the eligibility requirements and whose education was interrupted because of the war, be urged to continue his or her education according to provisions of the GI Bill of Rights.
- VIII.
 - a. That eligible veterans who wish to farm avail themselves of Government loans under the provisions of the GI Bill of Rights.
 - b. That Extension workers and local leaders become familiar with the "GI Bill" so as to intelligently help veterans secure loans.
 - c. That Extension workers and local leaders keep in touch with veterans who have gone into farming in order that they may assist such veterans in their undertakings.
- IX. That Extension Agents cooperate with civic, social, and religious organizations in promoting inter-racial goodwill among civilians and returning veterans.
- X. That the Extension Service on county and State levels be organized to serve as a clearing house for all services available to members of the Armed Forces interested in agriculture and home economics, and the agencies and institutions offering such services.

Respectfully submitted,

P. H. Stone, Ga., Chairman
Mrs. Alice C. Oliver, Miss.
L. A. Toney, W. Va.
John R. Jennings, Md.
Mrs. Iola W. Rowan, Texas, Secretary

REPORT OF COMMITTEE NO. 5

RURAL HEALTH

Note: Report and Recommendations of the Rural Health Committee Based Upon Discussion and Visits to the National Health Institute and Freedman's Hospital Health Clinic, June 26, 1945

This report is devoted specifically to observations and recommendations in certain nutritional deficiencies and to general health programs conducted by Negro Extension workers, and to cooperative relationships with Public Health units in the Southern region.

A generally poor health condition prevails among colored rural families in the Southern States due largely to (1) low income, (2) poor housing, (3) limited medical and hospital facilities, (4) lack of production and consumption of the proper kinds of food, (5) inadequate educational opportunities, (6) lack of a sufficient number of health workers, (7) lack of sufficient Negro Extension Service personnel, and (8) neglect of sound health habits in the home due to war conditions which have kept farm women in the field producing food and fiber.

Based upon the records of the U. S. Public Health Service of 1940, there was reported a low of one case to a high of 4,139 cases of pellagra in the fifteen Southern States.

It has been definitely proved that improper diet causes pellagra, rickets, goiter, diabetes, anemia, etc.

1. A contributing factor which can help to correct this health situation is: Increased income of these families, many of whom receive less than \$500 annually.
2. The production and consumption of more dairy products, more poultry and poultry products, livestock, vegetables and fruits would do much to relieve the situation.
3. Additional training in meal planning and food preparation is essential.
4. Create and develop an appreciation for the foods providing the necessary vitamins for good health.
5. Develop and intensify a program of increased production of small grain crops.
6. Educate the farm families to use more whole wheat products after producing them.
7. Encourage farm families to preserve the essential food elements in milling their wheat and corn. However, if corn or wheat is over-refined, urge the addition of enrichment ingredients. When meal or flour is purchased, the buyer should make sure that he is getting enriched products.

Recommendations for implementing the Rural Health Education Program among Negro Extension workers:

1. That all extension workers seek to obtain the necessary information on State nutrition programs.
2. Encourage all Extension workers to conduct a simple health program throughout the year.
3. Enlist the services of agencies and leaders in carrying nutrition practices to urban and rural families.
4. Conduct a nutrition campaign to include (1) nutrition training institutes for ministers and rural leaders and (2) nutrition centers in schools and 4-H Clubs.
5. Cooperate with the School Lunch Program.
6. Urge the use of preventive health measures and proper medical care.
7. Promote an intensive community health and sanitation improvement program.

Based upon the facts presented, which vividly portray a poor health condition among Negro farm families due largely to unbalanced, inadequate diets, lack of essential food production and conservation, and a general set of factors which could be corrected through Extension education, we feel that there is need for a substantial increase in personnel to serve Negro rural families in the several Southern States.

Respectfully submitted,

R. E. Jones, North Carolina, Chairman
B. K. Brown, Kentucky
Mrs. Marion D. Paul, South Carolina
Miss E. B. Jenkins, Virginia
J. E. Wainwright, Maryland
Mrs. H. F. Hewlett, Oklahoma, Secretary

REPORT OF COMMITTEE NO. 6

HOW SHALL WE HELP EXTENSION AGENTS IMPROVE EXTENSION METHODS?

The Committee makes the following recommendations:

1. Provide a farm and home demonstration agent for each county where the Negro population justifies.
2. Make available continuous in-service training courses for the workers.
3. Use Extension methods to raise the educational level of rural people.
4. Develop effective, unified State, county, and community programs that will reach all of the people.
5. Place greater emphasis on method and result demonstrations as a means of helping to solve many vexing farm and home problems.
6. Utilize the experience of local people more fully in determining the major farm and home problems.
7. Evaluate extension accomplishments through surveys, news stories, photographs, and complete records of all extension operations.
8. Give more thought to rural health and sanitation and cooperate more fully with other agencies in matters pertaining to health.
9. Keep extension personnel informed on the latest findings of Experiment Stations, the Agricultural College, and the United States Department of Agriculture.
10. Give added impetus to the extension program through the use of specialists.
11. Make extension teaching more effective through close coordination with other agencies.
12. Develop an educational program for the purpose of teaching more efficient use of machinery and labor-saving devices to offset farm labor shortages and to lower costs of production.
13. Encourage larger participation in extension programs through more effective use of information releases, radio presentations, and through the publication of an extension organ.

Respectfully submitted

H. C. Ray, Arkansas, Chairman
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SOME OPPORTUNITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN EXTENSION WORK WITH NEGROES

M. L. Wilson
Director of Extension Work

The passage of the Bankhead-Flannagan Act marks another milestone in the history and permanent development of extension work in the United States. It provides funds to be matched by the States for the permanent development of extension work, and the debates in Congress clearly indicated that they had in mind a well-rounded, well-balanced Extension Service in the future with appropriate recognition of 4-H Club and home demonstration work, as well as agricultural work. This means that now is the time for thinking through carefully the experience of the past years and planning constructively for the years ahead. We are happy to have representatives of the extension work with Negroes here at this time for conferences and to know that you are participating in and thinking about making "the best, better." None of us have any apologies to make for what the Extension Service has done during the past 31 years or, specifically, for the services we have rendered our Government during this great war on the food front. I congratulate you on the splendid work with Negroes and the leadership you have given it in your respective States.

I have some specific comments to make at this time which are about as follows:

First, in principle, our basic legislative acts by Congress and by the States, and the administrative organization of the same by Secretaries of Agriculture and the presidents of land-grant colleges have always proceeded on the principle that there should be one Extension Service within a State under the administrative leadership of one Extension Director and that the whole would be integrated into one progressive group of workers. This being the case, we do not think of the extension work with Negroes as a separate Extension Service but as a part of the Cooperative Extension Service in the States, in the counties, and in the Department of Agriculture.

Second, we need to give thought to the better basic foundation preparation for extension workers. Our hope is that this problem will be brought to the attention of the Negro land-grant colleges and that proper courses and satisfactory basic training will develop therein so as to give us a flow of well-trained Negro workers.

Third, we also need in this connection better research in how educational activities can best be carried on so that Extension meets the whole need of farm families and is practical and realistic in its approach and its accomplishments.

Fourth, among the many important problems for Negro farmers, may I say a word expressing my personal interest in the program for enriched cornmeal in the Southern States. If it were possible to have niacin added to all cornmeal, the scourge of pellagra would be completely eliminated. This would be a great thing for the Negroes of the South. It is a tremendous job because it involves reaching not only families but the men who operate the little corn mills as well. I hope that in planning your programs reasonable consideration will be given to this important project.

COORDINATING EXTENSION WORK

By

Charles A. Sheffield
Field Agent, Southern States

Lester Schlup, chief of Extension Information, in a recent address before the Land-Grant College Association, made the following statement regarding the importance of coordination. He said, "We no longer live in the frontier world of Abraham Lincoln. Mankind today is more closely knit together by modern means of communication and transportation. We may readily assume that the rank and file of people, whether on the farm or in the urban areas, recognize that there are world problems all of which have repercussions on the welfare of the local community. For each community and each neighborhood to understand how it is affected by national and international problems, the national viewpoint should be presented."

With a steadily growing Extension personnel all over the country and with so many varied programs for farmers in the field, it becomes more necessary for us as Extension workers, and especially those of us in the supervisory field, to think more in terms of a coordinated Extension program.

What is meant by coordination?

Webster defines coordination as "a combination in suitable relation so as to give harmonious results, functioning of parts in cooperation and normal sequence." This definition of coordination applied to Extension work, stated briefly, means that all Extension work is made up of combinations of programs, procedures, organization, supervision, subject-matter teaching aids, and information adapted to the use of all farm people, both adults, boys and girls. Moreover, organization of personnel, programs, procedures, and teaching aids must be coordinated so as to give smooth functioning of their parts in cooperation and normal sequence, and to aim at harmonious results in counties and with farm people.

How coordination is achieved.

How can coordination of Extension work be more effectively achieved? Assuming that all of us agree as to the need for closer coordination of Extension work and to what is meant by coordination, could we not agree then that the basis for attaining effective coordination in States is twofold. First, one administration (county agent work, home economics, 4-H Club and youth work) is all Extension work under a single administration. Do we sometimes become confused between the terms administration and supervision? Secondly, a State program for all Extension work and one county program for all Extension work in counties.

All of you in your respective States hear farm people say almost daily that they are confused and irritated by too many farm programs, action or otherwise, being administered by States and counties, some duplicating others and very often the regulations of one program preventing the successful operation of other programs. If the several phases of a State Extension program were headed by several administrators we could easily have overlapping of functions and duplication within the Extension Service itself.

So much for administration! Let's consider for a few minutes the value of a county program as an aid in effective coordination of our work.

We are soon to undergo in agriculture and industry profound post-war changes. The States you represent, excluding Maryland, we are told have on their farms 5-million farm workers while the rest of the country has on its farms another 5- million farm workers. Farmers in the 14 Southern States have only 20 acres of cropland per farm worker, compared to 50 acres of cropland per farm worker in the rest of the United States. Likewise, the average farm income for the South is \$850.00 per farm compared to an income of over \$2,000 per farm family for the rest of the country. If we are to have an income per farm family in the South in any way comparable to the rest of the country, we are told that the 5-million farm workers on Southern farms in 1940 must be reduced to approximately 2,800,000 farm workers during the next few years. We are also told that subsidies for holding up cotton prices and the increasing use by leaps and bounds of rayon and other synthetics are rapidly putting cotton farmers out of the export cotton business. Therefore, the price of cotton grown in America must be lowered to a level to meet world competition. I think you know that means only farmers having good land, who mechanize their farms and produce large yields of high quality cotton at a low cost will be able to stay in the business.

I will not expand post-war problems further, as this subject will be covered in detail on Monday afternoon. The major changes we are likely to face in the post-war period might be summed up as follows:

1. Increasing Southern industries and moving farm workers from the land to work in plants.
2. The development of market outlets for increased farm production, especially livestock, milk, poultry, eggs, and vegetables.
3. Conversion changes on farms.
4. Training farm people to work in industry.
5. We will need to develop more efficient farmers.
6. We must be willing to look the facts in the face and be willing to face them as changes are needed.

If we are to keep abreast of these changes, keep Extension work coordinated and meet our full responsibilities, we must start soon on intensive development of programs in all counties, based on problems and local situations with the help of farm people.

Mr. Hochbaum, in a recent discussion before the Federal staff, sketched briefly the present status of program-making and its evaluation by outlining three approaches. At first he said, a program was made up of a selection of Extension activities for each of which the Extension worker had a work plan. By means of this he hoped to progressively influence people to adopt the recommendations carried in each phase of the program. The program thus

represented more than good intentions. It must move people and get them to change. Secondly, Mr. Hochbaum observed that people learn only, that is change, as the teaching reflects some felt want, some annoyance, dissatisfaction, or problem which they recognize. Third, therefore, in program-making we must always work with people locally to find out through them what the local situations, problems, and dissatisfactions are. And there are seldom short cuts here. We and they are forced to range beyond these farms and homes we know most intimately, to make further inventory, checks, and studies in addition to having all the background information on problems.

The three methods widely used over the years have increasingly won the confidence and support of rural people for Extension work and have resulted in wide acceptance of Extension recommendations for the principle of basing programs on local needs and conditions as determined with the local people.

Are these methods of Extension program-making employed in the past years adequate to meet the vast changes and responsibilities to be placed upon the Extension Service in the post-war years ahead? I think not.

Coordination cannot be brought about around the desk--in offices. It must be accomplished in the field.

AGRICULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES IN THE SOUTH

C. C. Spaulding
President, North Carolina Mutual
Life Insurance Company

- A Summary -

Mr. Spaulding pointed out in his address the importance of business methods in the successful operation of a farm. Said he, "Every farmer ought to keep books if for no other reason than to know when he should quit farming and go into some other occupation."

Stressing business management, Mr. Spaulding cites an example to show how one tenant farmer, who had been coming out in debt to his landlord every year, got a loan from his bank to operate his farm one season and succeeded not only in repaying his loan from the return from his crops, but also made the down payment on a farm of his own.

Mr. Spaulding said that he knew several colored farmers who are grossing annually from \$10,000 to \$100,000 through careful management of their farms. He emphasized the need for keeping a record of all production costs, and of all monies received from the sale of products. By so doing a farmer can know when to buy a car and when not to. He criticized the large garages and small barns seen on many farms operated by Negroes and called on the Extension supervisors to counsel with the farmers and help them to put their small income to the best use.

In discussing farm youth, Mr. Spaulding said that every effort should be made to encourage farm boys and girls with their projects. He pointed out that his bank was not only making loans to farm youths to buy pigs, and chickens, but that it was also offering \$700 in prizes this year to North Carolina youth for breeding better strains of livestock.

OUTLINE OF "OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGE FACING NEGRO
EXTENSION WORKERS IN THE POST-WAR PERIOD"

T. M. Campbell, Field Agent

- I. A large percentage of Negro boys and girls in the armed services or in war industries came from the farms. Many of them:
 - a. Could not read
 - b. Could not write
 - c. Had not been anywhere or seen anything
- II. This large number of rural Negroes have become more intelligent and more vocal. They have learned more about:
 - a. Travel
 - b. Farming in other lands
 - c. Trades and industries
 - d. The use of machinery
 - e. Better housing
 - f. Personal hygiene
 - g. Sanitation
 - h. Balanced diet and food habits
 - i. Selection and preparation of foods
 - j. The control of disease
- III. The Extension worker can help them when they return to civilian life to make a large use of the teaching given them by the military by emphasizing:
 - a. Home economics
 - b. Agricultural engineering
 - c. Doctors and hospital attendants - for rural areas
 - d. Machines and use of labor saving devices on the farm
 - e. Preachers - chaplains - "A wing and a Prayer"
The church a potent factor in rural areas.
Stanley High's story "The Church Unmilitant"
- IV. Extension workers can help Negro rural servicemen get settled through working with other government agencies:
 - a. Buying farms
 - b. Thrift
 - c. Getting their families settled
 - d. Educating their children
 - e. Dispensing the milk of human kindness

THE ROLE OF THE EXTENSION SERVICE IN THE POST-WAR COTTON PROGRAM

H. H. Williamson
Assistant Director of Extension Work

It is generally expected that, among the things that will undergo great changes following the war period will be Southern agriculture. The radical changes in the first two decades after the war may be as great as in any previous half a century. Any agricultural program dealing with the cotton problem touches the mainspring of the agricultural economy of the South, the reason being that cotton and its by-products account for about one-third of the agricultural income of the South.

We are reminded by economists and statisticians that about half the farm people reside in the area usually referred to as the Cotton Belt, which constitutes approximately one-third of the land area, and in this area is to be found about half the farms of America. When we remember that one-half the farmers in this area, which represents approximately one-fourth of the total for the United States, depend directly or indirectly upon cotton for all or a part of their income, we then can appreciate that the future of cotton is not only of primary concern to the South, but to the Nation as a whole.

We can well ask these questions: Is the maintenance of a fair-sized cotton crop in the farm economy of the South of importance? Can cotton be eliminated from our farm production program without serious financial injury to the South and to the United States? Obviously, "no" is the answer to the latter. Can we retain cotton production in the Southern farm program and sell it in the markets of the world in the face of growing competition with foreign cotton and synthetic fibers? In my opinion, the answer is definitely "yes," but with qualifying provisions; two of which can be: (1) foreign trade policies that are conducive to the promoting of cotton exports, and (2) production techniques that would enable us to compete in the market both in price and quality of product.

It is recognized that our domestic policies, relating to price support, and production control, directly or indirectly, will have a tremendous influence on the future of cotton. The same can be said with reference to research. Research not only as it relates to production, but to the manufacturing processes and the development of new uses for cotton and cotton products. The efficient production of cotton of high quality, for which there is a demand, is going to be a very definite factor in the future of cotton. With this in mind, State and Federal extension people, in cooperation with the various bureaus and agencies of the Department of Agriculture, are now endeavoring to reorganize and implement an all-inclusive educational program dealing with cotton production that can be adapted to the various States and areas. It is intended to be a program that will point the way to a readjustment in cotton production in an appropriate and profitable manner. This program is being expressed in the form of seven essential steps. The reasons for, and the importance of each step is to make for uniformity. Each State will further develop the program

by adding the "know how" for getting the job done under the prevailing conditions within its own boundary:

1. Get together on the best variety.
2. Fit cotton into balanced farming.
3. Take care of your soil.
4. Make your labor count.
5. Control insects and diseases.
6. Pick and gin high grade.
7. Sell for grade and staple value.

As a production program of this character develops and competition becomes keener, it will mean, in general, shifting production from high-cost to low-cost areas, from low-yield land to the more productive cotton land. It will also bring about the use of labor-saving production and harvesting practices. It will necessitate cotton production being fitted into balanced farming and cotton being used in many instances for part rather than for primary farm income.

Extension services, under the leadership of county extension agents, are in position to contribute effectively by guiding farmers in the application of these seven recommended steps. It's a challenge! It's an opportunity!

WARTIME FOOD PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION FOR HOME USE

Mrs. Marian B. Paul

Even a year before Pearl Harbor South Carolina had launched its Better Farm Living program, a program planned and designed to interest the farm land owners in producing at least 75 percent of food and feed stuff needed for their families and livestock.

One hundred and seventy thousand small farmers, tenants and share-croppers were found deficient in the production of the essential foods. How could the already overburdened extension agents reach these persons? The only solution was to interest all available leadership, and our agents succeeded in instituting the neighborhood leaders' program. Each leader was to contact at least 10 neighbors and get them to sign cards pledging to raise the foods in which they were deficient. In 1941, to further promote this essential subject, a state-wide conference of 602 leaders, college presidents, school principals, teachers, etc. was held at State College, and later in the year an institute for rural ministers was conducted. These meetings were followed by nutrition schools in each county.

By 1943 the entire nation had become food conscious and we launched our "Food for Victory" campaign. The work among Negroes was handicapped because of our limited personnel -- only 16 home agents to carry on homemaking activities among 61,000 colored farmers. In fact, only one-third of the counties of the State were touched by Negro extension agents.

Through the War Food emergency appropriation, 12 emergency workers were placed in South Carolina during February, 1944, and four additional workers were placed in April. An emergency war food specialist was employed in June, and now, with this staff which is not sufficient for there are still 16 counties needing help, we feel that we are making some progress.

The goal for the South Carolina Victory Garden program in 1945 is 141,000 farm gardens and 275,000 town and city gardens. Each year a new slogan is used in order to create renewed interest in our food production and conservation program. In January of this year, we launched our "10-Point Food and Feed Production Program". These 10 points are:

1. Make maximum use of available labor and equipment on the farm and in the community.
2. Arrange now for quality planting seed.
3. Arrange now for fertilizers for heavy applications.
4. Check farm and home equipment, and order parts or new equipment now.
5. Grow plenty of high quality grazing, hay, and silage.

6. Produce increased quantities of corn and small grain.
7. Produce adequate vegetables, poultry, eggs, meat, and milk for every family and conserve for home use.
8. Produce, grade, pack, and market quality products.
9. Take care of the land and forests.
10. Control crop and livestock diseases, insects, and parasites.

To accomplish these goals and our 10-Point Food and Feed Production program, we enlisted the services of our 7,826 community leaders and our 7,976 4-H boys and girls. We conducted garden demonstrations, and the Farm Security Administration distributed approximately 6,000 seed packages. A bulletin board has been placed in each seed store in South Carolina for posting the 10 most important bulletins published by the Extension Service to promote food production and conservation.

A series of garden articles is being published daily in the majority of our papers. There is a daily statement over the radio on gardening. Some stations broadcast these statements several times during the day. We also have a series of articles for weekly papers. One hundred and twenty-five thousand copies of our bulletin "A Victory Garden for Every Family", have been sent to farm and town families.

The Extension Horticultural Specialists prepare and send out each month a garden letter to all garden leaders and to several thousand gardeners. In many counties, county agents reproduce this letter and mail it to all farm families.

Letters on sweet potato culture and on home orchards are prepared and sent to leaders who promote the production of these for home use.

With the coordination of all these efforts, our food program for 1945 is most successful. South Carolina has more good gardens than any other time in its history. I quote from Federal-State Agricultural Statistician, Frank O. Black, in a statement June 16. "Yields have been good to excellent. Preliminary estimates for the States 13 principal spring and summer crops showed aggregate production of 209,751 tons, which would be 49 percent more than last year and 22 percent above the previous 10 years."

The food conservation project is the one phase of our program which needs little promoting. The home agents and neighborhood leaders have completely sold conservation to our people. We have conducted training schools for neighborhood leaders where we taught conservation of foods by canning, drying, brining, sulphuring, dehydration and by storing. All-day canning schools were held in all communities, canning centers established, pressure cooker clinics conducted, and more calls came from individuals than our agents were able to fill.

I visited a leaders' training meeting in Sumter County, attended by 48 leaders, and it was most gratifying to hear these leaders say that except for sugar, they never used their ration books. That is true in many counties. On a tour in Greenville County June 15, 1945, the farm women, with all praise and humility, gave thanks to the Extension worker who taught them to can meats and vegetables for the first time.

But we, who are striving for the peace which is to follow the victories from the wars, see chaos, suffering and retardation unless this program and these workers are maintained. A well fed and healthy people is a happy, prosperous people. I, therefore, urge and recommend that Negro farm and home demonstration agents be employed in all counties where the Negro rural population so justifies.

A PROGRAM FOR FARM YOUTH

Reuben Brigham
Assistant Director of Extension Work

Early provision by State extension services for the adequate servicing of rural youth between the approximate ages of 10 and 30 years is vital to the development of the agriculture and rural life of the United States of the next 25 years, and is equally vital to the future of cooperative extension work. Particularly is there need for developing an effective program of service to rural young Negro men and women between the approximate ages of 20 and 30. Also, for integrating this work with 4-H Club work at the younger age limit and with regular adult extension work at the older age limits.

In planning a service to rural youth, consideration should be given to the situation and needs of every agent and interested group. This should include (1) those returning from the armed forces; (2) those returning from war plants and war industries; (3) those who have been carrying on farm production as deferred farm workers; (4) those in the IV-F classification who have not been inducted into even limited military service; and (5) the wives of the men in each of the foregoing groups. There is also a sixth group of younger rural people whom we may designate as oncoming youth and who are now receiving education and training through the public school system through vocational courses in agriculture and home economics and through membership in 4-H Clubs. All these groups are in the rural-youth picture and should be enlisted and integrated into an all-out community and county effort to (1) rebuild and conserve the soil resources on every farm; (2) maintain farm buying power; (3) rebuild and vitalize rural community life.

The rural-youth needs of each locality should be inventoried by the people of the locality with the encouragement and assistance of extension workers. Programs of lasting character and practical in their social and economic values should be set up by the people themselves in full consultation with their own rural-youth leadership. Specific activities, both for rural-youth groups and for rural youth as individuals, should be determined upon and listed and a sound foundation laid for the economic and social development of rural youth as individuals and as members of groups with common interests and purposes.

Several types of rural-youth organizations, such as county-wide groups, district groups representing a group of several communities within a county, and community youth groups, are all meeting with success, and it is doubtful if any one uniform pattern for organization should be attempted or even considered. The main thought should be to stimulate and advise rural youth in both individual and group thought and action.

It should be our object to see provided in every rural county with Negro population some type of rural youth activity and organization calculated to serve best the interests of each such community and its rural youth. One of the first steps, if it has not already been taken, is to set up an extension committee on rural youth. This committee should be charged with the responsibility of planning and getting under way a comprehensive extension program for Negro rural young people. There is time, possibly six months, in which to inventory the situation, to develop a plan, and to bring about effective action. The year ahead should not be wasted through delayed action or haphazard planning. It is already 12 o'clock--tomorrow is here. There is a job to be done.

A PROGRAM FOR RURAL YOUTH

Dr. E. B. Evans
Dean of School of Veterinary Medicine
Tuskegee Institute

Any analysis of the economic situation of rural youth must recognize the expectation of the younger generation. In recent years, in rural America the trend has been toward dependence on wages for work. This idea has been vitalized by the fact that industries, such as lumbering, mining, petroleum, textiles and defense plants have been developed on a large scale in rural territory, and a wage earning class has been created. The idea of having a job has become dominant, particularly among the younger generation. This trend must be recognized along with the traditional background, which measures economic security in rural society in terms of property ownership, and the economic relationship between parents and children.

The economic status of rural young people who are living with their parents and working at home can be but partially measured by money income, by property owned, or by whether or not they receive wages for their work. Their economic status must frequently be measured by the prospects for ultimately owning a farm or business in the community or becoming established in a profession, in a secure salaried position, or in a skilled trade. In order to interpret the situation of rural youth fully then it is necessary to discover the opportunities for farm youth to attain farm ownership or a satisfactory tenant status, if they remain in rural territory, or for village youth to become permanently established in some non-agricultural occupation.

Most of the studies related to the economic status of farm youth were made prior to World War II. And although the heavy demands on all available man-power have to some extent eliminated the pile up of youth on the farm, a brief look at the situation preceding the war may give us some insight into what the situation may be like in the period of readjustment.

Prior to the war, farm youth between 15 and 24 years of age formed the bulk of the unpaid family labor and a large proportion of the hired labor on farms. To be specific, over 95 per cent of all the young men 15-19 years of age and over 70 per cent of those 20-24 years of age listed in the 1930 census as agricultural workers belonged to one or the other of these two groups, which together totaled 1,843,000 youth. By 1935 probably, 500,000 more young men had "piled up" on the farm, which sharpened competition for available farm labor jobs and no doubt greatly increased the number of unpaid family workers.

To some extent the war has mitigated the effect of these trends, but to the extent and in the degree that they are checked by a positive program in the post-war period will depend the provision of a healthy climate of economic opportunity, geared to meet rural youth's expectation.

Recreation in Rural Areas

Urban studies of youth have revealed that the key to the problems of many young people lies in the use they make of their leisure hours. There is no

reason to believe that this relationship is any less effective in rural than in urban areas.

Outside of the church and other organizations found to a greater or less extent in rural territory, there is quite a gamut of activities that may absorb the leisure time of young people. These range from organized group recreation, such as athletic teams promoted by some local agency or by youth themselves, parties, picnics, to individual activities, such as reading, swimming, dancing, and attending motion pictures.

Juvenile Delinquency

What conditions cause delinquency? You know what causes poor plants, poor pigs, poor cows. One writer has said, poor soil, poor farmers, poor techniques as well as an infinite amount of meddling by insects and interference by persons who know less than farmers. Delinquency grows out of poor soil or family background, maladjusted parents, broken homes, inadequate health, housing and recreational facilities, poverty and ceaseless coddling and meddling by doting parents or friends who like to see the baby cavort or do hundreds of "funny" things to satisfy a caprice or repression.

Delinquency breeds in areas characterized by physical deterioration, shifting population, poor living conditions, marked absence of home ownership, faulty educational and correctional standards.

Socio-Economic Standards for Rural People

Programs for farm youth must be based upon sound, constructive and progressive standards, going even beyond the "Educational Standards for Rural People" worked out by a committee during the 1944 meeting of the American Country Life Association in Chicago, Illinois.

Such standards rest upon the fact that the village-centered community is the basic unit in rural society for carrying on the activities. The people acting together discover their needs, plan together the program, and enlist their principal agencies (such as schools, churches, libraries, discussion groups or councils, farm organizations, extension services and other branches of national agencies) to work out the solutions. These standards include:

1. An adequate instructional program for every child until he is ready to take his place in adult society, based upon experiences of rural children and adapted to needs of rural and world community.
2. Modern, well-equipped buildings with desirable surroundings, progressively supported by local, state and federal funds.
3. Competent teaching and administrative personnel with sound philosophy, comfortably housed, adequately paid and rewarded by security of tenure for loyal and satisfactory service.

4. Institutional church with a trained and secure leadership expounding social doctrines that give primacy to the family, land as God's gift to the people, and cooperative effort as the means of individual betterment.
5. Rural public libraries (mobile and adequately housed and staffed) serving the expanding needs of the community and cooperating with other agencies.
6. Neighborhood groups and community councils for exchange of ideas and planned action to find, farms and follow facts necessary for community development on the national and world economic and social trends.
7. Expanding employment (agricultural and industrial and professional) through development of chemurgy or diversified agriculture or a balance between farming and industry so as to provide money income and necessary goods and services for a constantly rising standard or norm of living.
8. Establishment of producer and consumer cooperatives to educate farm people as well as solve their major individual and social problems.
9. Intensified backing of the cooperative Extension Service in providing a national out-of-school program for assisting all rural people in utilizing the community resources and adopting the best-known home and farm practices in improving rural life.
10. Provision of localized, creative cooperative recreation to replace harmful, commercialized ventures.
11. Extension of social service, medical care and social security to rural areas.
12. Articulation of local, governmental units in formulation and execution of policy as to constitute the democratic way of life.
13. Cooperation in every way possible to promote world peace, world security and inter-cultural relations so the energies of rural folk can be developed and utilized to prevent war and assure brotherhood, understanding and justice.

Programs for Farm Youth

If farm people in their many communities need the following, it is conceivable that workable programs can be shaped for them:

1. Doctors and nurses, clinics and hospitals near enough and good enough that rural families can afford good health.

2. Schools that are well staffed and equipped for rural and national needs.
3. Land and soils conserved and improved by regional agencies and available for family ownership and cultivation.
4. Employment continuous or diversified enough to supply sufficient purchasing power to buy the necessities and comforts of life.
5. Electricity, telephones, good roads, sanitation and other conveniences at rates within the reach of all.
6. Recreation and amusement to offset delinquency and enrich rural family life.
7. Churches and other religious agencies whose leaders can get adequate followership to master the problems of living.
8. Responsive, responsible and efficient government rendering mass welfare services at lowest per capita costs to all rural citizens.

Such a program implies that rural community reorganization is both necessary and desirable and that farm youth through various agencies can take an active part.

A PROGRAM FOR FARM YOUTH

John W. Mitchell, Field Agent

Since January 1, 1944, it has been my privilege to visit each of the States in which there are Negro extension workers. Even though these visits have been brief in some of the States, I have tried to make alert observations and to gain as much first hand information from office conferences as well as from field visits as time and opportunity would permit. On my last trip in the field, I visited 11 States, going as far South as Alabama, crossing into Mississippi, then to Louisiana, coming back up to Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky and finishing in West Virginia. On this trip especially, I was looking for both what was being done in 4-H Club and adult work. The following is my impression:

The General Situation is Encouraging

Decided progress is being made. One can put his finger on tangible results being accomplished by Negro 4-H Club members in a number of the States.

In South Carolina the Fat Stock Show held its third annual exhibit this Spring in Florence. The organization also plans to hold an annual 4-H Camp as soon as travel conditions will permit. In Georgia there was a large exhibit of hams and eggs by 4-H Club members held at the 30th annual Ham and Egg Show at Fort Valley. Not only do they have a permanent camp site in Georgia but the Negro extension workers have on hand some splendid material and supplies recently salvaged from one of the U.S.O. clubs. In North Carolina where 31 carloads of dairy cows have been placed with Negro farmers within the last two years, the first carload was ordered for Negro 4-H Club members and 4-H Club members have shared in each of these shipments.

In a number of the States successful wildlife camps have been held and the workers expressed a hope that such camps will be continued.

Attitudes Good

The attitude of the public toward 4-H Club work is at an all-time high. The public, as it is educated to know more about 4-H Club work and its program, has a much greater appreciation of the work. As a result it is being given increased encouragement.

1. Parents are not only taking more interest in encouraging their children to be members, but are also giving them an opportunity to carry out projects.
2. Some landlords are cooperating by allowing 4-H Club members on their plantation to have projects.

3. School officials are giving the work splendid cooperation. Time is allowed for children to carry on 4-H Club activities in the school. In some of the States, 4-H Clubs are operated in the institutions of higher learning. As a result, the club members do not lose their identity with 4-H Club work while at college.

Potentialities of Program of 4-H Club Work Among Negroes in the South

1. Statistical data on Negro 4-H Club work prepared by Dr. Erwin H. Shinn, shows that there are 1,622,059 Negro rural boys and girls eligible for membership in the States covered by Negro extension personnel. In the year Dr. Shinn made the study, only 17 1/10 per-cent of this number had enrolled in 4-H Club work, which anyone will agree is a very small percentage of those who should have been enrolled. Negro club enrollment for 1944 shows a total of 104,304 boys and 156,801 girls which is still far short of the number of boys and girls who should participate in the 4-H Club program. (The figures for Maryland and Tennessee were not available and are not included in the above totals for 1944.)
2. On actual observation there is a large number of young people who have a native love of farm life and enjoy rural environment although we often hear statements to the contrary.
3. Rural educational opportunities for the Negro in the South are decidedly on the up-grade. In a number of communities where there was formerly a one-teacher school, there are now consolidated schools with home economics and vocational agriculture teachers. The students are being taught to appreciate rural life.
4. In quite a number of the rural communities, trained young Negroes are establishing themselves in agriculture, showing the advantages of the type of training being received in the Land-Grant colleges and other institutions of higher learning. It also reflects the success of the work being done by Federal and State agricultural agencies.

Finally, the Extension Service has almost unlimited opportunities to render a needed service to colored farmers. And because they make up such a large segment of the Southern rural population, any lifting of their living standards is sure to play an important part in raising the whole level of rural life in the South.

Recommendations

While much progress has been made in 4-H Club work in recent years, it is apparent that a stepped-up and specific program is needed. Therefore,

I make the following recommendations:

1. Encourage extension workers to devote a just proportion of their time to the 4-H Club program.
2. Offer awards and scholarships to Negro 4-H Club members in order to provide new stimuli and incentives.
3. Strengthen the program by appointing a full-time Negro 4-H Club leader in each of the States where there is a Negro Land-Grant college.
4. Appoint two capable colored men on the Federal level to give their full time to the 4-H program. This would further implement the excellent work now being done by Dr. Erwin H. Shinn and other 4-H Club officials working out of the Washington office.

EXTENSION INFORMATION TECHNIQUES

Lester A. Schlup
Chief, Division of Extension Information

Educational work with Negro farm people presents a great and extremely vital challenge to the effectiveness of Extension techniques. Not all of the mass communication media, such as the press and the radio, can be used with maximum results. Publications issued by the United States Department of Agriculture and the State Agricultural Colleges, in many instances, need to be written in more simplified language to meet the requirements of understanding of the educational level of many farm people. Census data for 1940 indicate that there are many, many families which do not have a radio, although in a great many instances farm programs are heard in listening groups at meetings.

All of this points to two things: (1) We need to amplify the basic information that we have about the situation of Negro farm people before we can recommend intelligently that this or that informational or visual method can be used with effectiveness; and, (2) we need to know more about the problems of the Negro agents, such as lack of cameras, projectors, mimeograph machines, and other equipment and facilities, as well as the availability of electrical power for projection equipment. Studies along these lines would be very valuable as a basis for a definite program of visual and information aids to Negro agents.

It seems evident that greater use could be made by the agents of intelligently written, brief, and well-illustrated circular letters..... photographs, even though not technically perfect, could be used to a larger extent in explaining how better practices have been adopted to advantage. Such photographs would be even more effective if they illustrated the "before-and-after" to contrast the good results with the situation that was corrected. Photographs always lend real-life authenticity to a recommendation, which may fall flat if reliance is placed solely upon talking about it.....likewise, film slides would be helpful. Film slides are nothing more than a series of still photographs put together in a well-organized series on a strip of film, and projected on a screen. The agent's own pictures, either in film slide form or on 2x2 glass slides would be better than United States Department of Agriculture series because they would portray local situations known to the people seeing them. They would have the home-spun flavor so helpful in "selling" good practices.

It seems evident that more training of district and local agents is needed in techniques such as these. We, in the Division of Extension Information, have been so pressed with the necessities arising out of the urgency of the war that we have not been able to give enough attention to

providing such aids as film slides showing how to prepare good circular letters or how to use the radio, or how to write a news story, or how to take a good photograph. Extension editors in the States have also been hard pressed during the war. However, as the postwar period approaches closer and closer, and as the present restrictions on all types of equipment will gradually improve, we hope to remedy our present lack of aids. When these become available they will be supplied some without cost, some at a nominal cost, for the use of supervisors and district agents in agent training meetings.

The Extension Service Review, house organ of the entire Cooperative Extension Service, has had very few stories of Negro work during the last 18 months. This is due primarily to the fact that few such stories have been supplied to us. We could use more stories which would reflect how the agents are planning, organizing and carrying out their programs, what methods they use to reach and influence farm people, what results they obtain, and the like. Such stories, not more than 400 words in length, would be welcome. They would help to spread effective ideas and techniques developed by one agent to other agents. They should be sent to the State extension editor for State clearance, and for sending to the Extension Service Review.

A CONVERSION PROGRAM FOR THE COTTON SOUTH

Note: The statement below represents a summary of a symposium on the conversion program. Participants in the symposium were Dr. F. F. Elliot, Dr. Mordecai Ezekiel, and Dr. Sherman Johnson of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Steadily rising competition from foreign growths and synthetics is making the position of United States cotton growers increasingly precarious. If the farm price of cotton is maintained at or near parity in the years after the war, export and domestic markets will be seriously reduced. Yet large numbers of cotton farmers would find it impossible to continue to grow cotton at freely competitive prices.

The position of all of Southern agriculture is seriously jeopardized, for cotton is by far the most important cash crop of the area and is grown by half of the South's farm families.

Also, the difficulties besetting cotton as a commodity are not the only threat to the future well-being of Southern farm people. Large numbers of them are seriously underemployed, on farms that are either too small or for other reasons too unproductive to fully utilize the skill and labor of a farm family and to yield an adequate family living. During the decade ending with 1942, farm income per family in the South was less than half that of farm families in the rest of the country. Immediate difficulties are heightened as mechanization and other improvements in the technology of agricultural production push more and more families off their farms and often completely out of agriculture. After the war, even more rapid gains in mechanization are in prospect. For the long run, mechanization holds promise of more productiveness and better incomes. For the short run, without careful management it can mean great distress.

In the tangled situation two facts stand out. First, efforts to maintain the position of cotton artificially are, in the long run, almost certainly doomed to failure. Price maintenance means loss of the export trade and reduction of home markets, as well as an eventual choice between drastic acreage control and the piling up of an unmanageable surplus. Export subsidies invite retaliation. Support of cotton through income payments to growers means increasing dependence of Southern farmers on large year-to-year Federal appropriations. Neither course would cure the situation; both would tend to perpetuate the conditions that made Federal aid necessary.

Second, strong tides toward more diversified farming and displacement of many farm families already are running in the agricultural South. Efforts to prop up cotton artificially could not stem that tide; they would only cause dangerous cross-currents.

Another course is open--an agricultural conversion program to take full advantage of the tides that are running and to harness their power constructively. Such a conversion program would call for a competitive price for all cotton so as to increase consumption and encourage production of the South's leading crop by farmers who could grow it efficiently. A conversion program also would assist farmers who cannot grow cotton profitably to shift to other farm enterprises, and would assist underemployed members of the region's dense farm population to leave

agriculture altogether for productive work in industry or trade. Conversion would mean fewer and larger farms, better farm incomes, and a higher agricultural income for the whole region.

Hand in hand with the agricultural conversion program would go a broad program to encourage greater industrialization in the South. Obviously, people should not be encouraged to leave farms unless they have good jobs to go to in other lines. Also, more industry and trade in the South will mean better markets for the farm people who remain on the land.

In the decade after the last war, without the aid of any definite program non-agricultural employment in the South increased by a third. A nearly two-thirds increase will be required in the decade after this war to provide full-time jobs for all of the working force of the area, including those who leave farms. The South has the basic human and physical resources for such an increase. An integrated program of technical assistance and credit would greatly stimulate such a development. Although interdependent, and closely related as to timing, the agricultural and industrial programs would of necessity operate separately. Local, State, and Federal agricultural agencies and organizations that would handle much of the job of farm conversion are not equipped for widespread action in the nonfarm field. An outstanding exception is development of new processing and marketing facilities for the new products that would be produced on Southern farms. There, agriculture has a direct interest in adequate and well-timed development, and a large contribution to make.

Essentials of the agricultural conversion program would consist of: (1) A freely competitive price for all cotton, (2) cotton price adjustment payments on a descending scale for a limited period to cushion the drop from present price levels (3) a broad program of assistance to farmers who needed to go out of cotton, reduce their cotton acreage, enlarge their farms, or make other basic changes in order to establish a stable, diversified pattern of farming that could best be expected to yield adequate incomes, (4) an integrated system of conversion payments and credit facilities to help farmers make the required changes, with aid conditioned on following long-range individual farm plans, and (5) a program for training for other work farm people who wanted to leave agriculture and of helping them locate jobs and establish themselves.

Under conditions of full national employment, the active phase of the conversion program could be completed in 10 years. The diminishing cotton price adjustments would be made during a 5-year period. Conversion of individual farms also could be accomplished in 5 years, but it would be reasonable to expect farmers to enter such a program in different years during the decade.

While full national employment would speed the conversion program and enhance its benefits, the success of the program would not be dependent on full employment. Even with considerable unemployment, the conversion program would have advantages over other possible approaches.

During the first decade, the conversion program might cost the Federal Government an average of 460 million dollars a year. This sum would be something more than 100 million dollars larger than the average cost of farm programs in the South during the 3 years before the war. It would be larger than the estimated cost of some of the alternative approaches for the future, smaller than that of others.

It could be expected, however, to result in the greatest farm income for the region, and because of the smaller number of farm families, an even larger relative advantage in income per farm family.

During the second decade and thereafter, the conversion program, while it still could be expected to yield the largest farm income, would be by far the least expensive of the possible approaches. Once the major phase of agricultural conversion has been completed, the cost to the Government would be confined to that of a continuing conservation program. The other approaches, since they would not have cured fundamental weaknesses, would cost more in the second decade than in the first.

Carrying out a truly effective conversion program would require changes in well-established patterns of farming and habits of thought. Prejudices and educational deficiencies would have to be taken into account and overcome. Determined effort and close cooperation on the part of farm and city people and local, State, and Federal governments would be required. In a word, the difficulties would be great.

But the gains could be tremendous. Alone of all possible approaches, the conversion program offers a way toward curing, and not merely palliating, the ills that have beset the agriculture of the South.

AN APPRAISAL OF THE CONFERENCE

H. W. Hochbaum
Chief, Division of Field Coordination

This has been a fine conference in every way. It was inspiring to hear the many good talks and to note the earnestness and diligence of all who attended. The recommendations of the various committees are well thought out and well expressed. They are excellent contributions toward better fitting extension work to meet some of the major problems and responsibilities of today. The many opportunities for the exchange of experiences between supervisors from so large a region of the country may have better mutual understanding and have a higher appreciation of the part extension workers can play in improving farm and rural life. The supervisors left with new courage and fresh determination to help extension agents and local leaders to understand the significance of some of the larger problems which they must tackle in order to be of greater service to rural people. We hope that the supervisors will make the problems emphasized in the conference a very great part of their programs of supervision. We hope that they will do more than talk these things over with the county extension agents. Supervisors can rightly do so much more if they will sit down with each agent, come to an agreement on the need for attacking these problems, and show them how to do this in terms of their own conditions by actually helping each agent make a plan of work involving the best use of the most fitting extension method to influence the largest possible number of people to change their habits and practices. Then the supervisor may very well follow up these spelled out and scheduled plans and systematically help the agent carry through and meet the desired goals.

We here in Washington are glad that you could come here for this conference. We enjoyed working with you and we wish you every success in the important work you are doing.

LIST OF NEGRO STATE AND DISTRICT EXTENSION SUPERVISORS
IN ATTENDANCE AT THE SOUTHWIDE CONFERENCE JUNE 23-28
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON D.C.

Name	Title	Address	Number of Agents Supervised	
<u>Alabama</u>			Farm Dem.	Home Dem.
Dr. J. R. Otis	State Agent	Tuskegee Inst.	37	5*
Miss L. C. Hanna	State Home Agt.	" "		31 4*
Nicholas Kollock	District Agent	" "		
V. C. Turner	Club Agent	" "		
Miss Emily C. Harris	Club Agent	" "		
R. R. Bell	Farm Labor Asst.	" "		
<u>Arkansas</u>				
H. C. Ray	District Agent	610½ W. 9 St.)	11	5*
Mrs. Fannie M. Boone	State Home Agt.	Little Rock)		16 9*
<u>Georgia</u>				
P. H. Stone	State Agent	State Industrial College, Savannah	27	26
F. M. Staley	Regional Farm Labor Asst.	" "		
<u>Kentucky</u>				
Bennett K. Brown	County Agent	Russellville	5	3*
<u>Maryland</u>				
Martin G. Bailey	District Agent	P. O. Box 5302 Seat Pleasant	2	7* 3
Miss Ethel L. Bianchi	Co. Home Dem. Agent	" "		
Miss Evelyn Kent	" " " "	" "		
James R. Taylor	County Agent	" "		
L. H. Martin	" "	" "		
John R. Jennings	" "	" "		
Milbourne Hull	" "	" "		
James E. Wainwright	" "	" "		
William R. Brogden	" "	" "		
<u>Mississippi</u>				
M. M. Hubert	District Agent	843½ Rose St. Jackson	30	20*
Mrs. Alice C. Oliver	State Home Dem. Agt.	" "		43 20*
G. C. Cypress	Club Agent	" "		
Miss Beatrice Childress	" "	" "		
H. C. Galloway	State Farm Labor Specialist	" "		
<u>North Carolina</u>				
R. E. Jones	State Agent	A & T College)	39	6*
Mrs. Dazelle F. Lowe	State Home Agent	Greensboro)		25 6*

* Emergency War Food Production and Conservation Assistants

Name	Title	Address	Number of Agents Supervised
<u>Oklahoma</u>			Farm Dem; Home Dem.
Paul O. Brooks	District Agent	Langston Univ. Langston	10 4*
Mrs. Helen M. Hewlett	State Home Agent	" "	8 5*
J. E. Taylor	State Farm Labor Specialist	" "	
<u>South Carolina</u>			
E. N. Williams	Ext. Supervisor	State College Orangeburg	19 10*
Mrs. Marian B. Paul	State Home Dem. Agt.	" "	14 14*
<u>Louisiana</u>			
T. J. Jordan	District Agent	Southern Univ. Scotlandville	15 3*
Mrs. Ruby F. Henton	State Home Dem. Agt.	" "	11 4*
<u>Tennessee</u>			
W. H. Williamson	Asst. State Agent	P. O. Box 543 Nashville	9 4*
Miss Bessie Walton	State Home Dem. Agt.	P. O. Box 1171 Nashville 2	8 4*
<u>Texas</u>			
W. C. David	Acting State Leader	Prairie View College Prairie View	50 9*
Mrs. I. W. Rowan	State Home Dem. Agt.	" "	42 11*
J. V. Smith	Regional Farm Labor Specialist	" "	
<u>Virginia</u>			
R. W. Newsome	District Agent	Virginia State College, Ettrick	27
Miss Blanch D. Harrison	State Home Dem. Agt.	" "	11 2*
Miss Lizzie A. Jenkins	State Home Dem. Agt. (Retired)	" "	
S. E. Marshall	Farm Labor Spec.	" "	
<u>West Virginia</u>			
L. A. Toney	District Leader	West Va. State College Inst., Institute	2 1*
Mrs. T. J. Livisay	State Home Dem. Agt.	" "	2 8*
T. M. Campbell	Field Agent	Tuskegee Institute Alabama	
John W. Mitchell	" "	Hampton Institute Hampton, Virginia	

* Emergency War Food Production and Conservation Assistants

Name	Title	Office	Grade
Mr. J. H. Brown	Assistant Chief	General Office	1st Class
Mr. J. H. Brown	Assistant Chief	General Office	1st Class
Mr. J. H. Brown	Assistant Chief	General Office	1st Class
Mr. J. H. Brown	Assistant Chief	General Office	1st Class
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Mr. J. H. Brown	Assistant Chief	General Office	1st Class
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